

BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

Minutes of the Board of Police Commissioners Community Meeting Thursday, September 11, 2003

The Community meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners was held on Thursday, September 11, 2003, at 6:30 p.m., at Christ the King Activities Center, 20800 Grand River, Detroit, MI 48219.

ATTENDANCE

Board Members Present

Willie E. Hampton
Arthur Blackwell, II **(ABS)**
Erminia Ramirez
Edgar L. Vann, Jr.
Megan Norris

Department Personnel Present

AC Tim Black

Board Staff Present

Dante' L. Goss, Exec. Director
Arnold Sheard, Interim Chief Investigator
Michelle McDonald, Community Affairs Coordinator
E. Lynise Bryant-Weekes, Personnel Director

OTHERS PRESENT

RECORDERS

Jerome Adams

1. CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Hampton called the regular meeting of the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners to order at 6:30 p.m.

Commissioner Norris read the duties and responsibilities of the Board of Police Commissioners.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: **Comm. Vann** made the motion to approve the minutes of Thursday, September 4, 2003.

SECOND: **Comm. Blackwell** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

3. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

Comm. Hampton requested a moment of silence in remembrance of the September 11th victims and their families.

RESOLUTION HONORING MR. ARTHUR DIVERS

WHEREAS Mr. Arthur Divers is a lifelong resident and community leader in the City of Detroit; and

WHEREAS Mr. Divers serves as a Precinct Delegate for the 15th District; and

WHEREAS Mr. Divers has contributed greatly to the efforts of the Eighth Precinct by serving on the Executive Board of the Northwest Weed and Seed Organization; and

WHEREAS Mr. Divers serves on the Executive Board for the Detroit Branch of the NAACP, as a member of the Metropolitan Detroit Alliance of Black School Educators and as a member of the National Association of Parliamentarians; and

WHEREAS Mr. Divers has received numerous leadership awards for his outstanding service and contribution to the community and the City of Detroit,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED That the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners, speaking for the citizens of the City of Detroit and the Detroit Police Department, acknowledges the generous spirit of Mr. Divers. His unselfishness and dedication to improving the quality of life for all citizens in his community and throughout the City of Detroit merits our highest regards.

We thank and congratulate you, Mr. Arthur Divers.

/s/ Willie Hampton
Chairperson

/s/Arthur Blackwell
Vice Chairperson

/s/Megan P. Norris
Commissioner

/s/Edgar L. Vann, Jr.
Commissioner

/s/Erminia Ramirez
Commissioner

DETROIT BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

SEPTEMBER 11, 2003

MOTION: **Comm. Norris** made the motion to adopt the resolution for Mr. Divers.

SECOND: **Comm. Vann** seconded the motion.

VOTE: All in attendance voted in the affirmative.

Assistant Chief Tim Black presented Mr. Divers with a Certificate Recognition on behalf of Chief Oliver and the Detroit Police Department. Assistant Chief Tim Black also presented to Mr. Divers the Spirit of Detroit award on behalf of the City Council Unit.

Mr. Divers thanked everyone for his awards.

4. SECRETARY'S REPORT – EXEC. DIR. GOSS

CITIZEN COMPLAINTS RECEIVED

This Week

Year to Date

Weekly Count of Complaints:	14	829
Weekly Count of Allegations:	20	1,711
Arrest	1	75
Demeanor	11	549
Entry	0	28
Force	2	135
Harassment	0	58
Procedure	6	588
Property	0	76
Search	0	49
Service	0	152

Pending Cases

As of September 10, 2003, the Office of the Chief Investigator (OCI) has a total of **683 pending cases**, which include **152 cases** with an age of 0-45 days, **110 cases** with an age of 46-60 days, **96 cases** with an age of 61-90 days, and **96 cases** with an age of 91-120 days, **156 cases** with an age of 121 days – 6 months, and **73 case** with an age of 7-9 months.

2002

During the past week:	24	Year to Date:	764
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5. REPORT/PRESENTATION – CHIEF OF POLICE

AC Black stated that the Police Department is in the process of bringing online a new Records Management system called (CRISNET). As part of that system, we are also moving towards a mobile visual computer. AC Black introduced Lt. Adams, who gave a short explanation and demonstration of the mobile visual computer. AC Black stated that the scout car was parked outside with the new visual computer installed. The general public was welcome to view the scout car and ask questions.

Comm. Vann asked how many colors did we have? Didn't we have about three (3) or (4) four colors?

AC Black stated yes, we had several colors but we are moving towards white. The goal is that eventually all of the scout cars will be white.

Comm. Vann stated that we just bought the black ones two (2) or three (3) years ago.

Lt. Lawrence Adams gave the demonstration of the mobile visual computer.

Comm. Norris asked if the mobile visual computer would be in all scout cars?

Lt. Adams answered yes.

Comm. Norris asked would the mobile visual computer be installed in other police vehicles other than scout cars?

Lt. Adams stated that DC Gloria Reynolds might be able to answer that question.

Comm. Norris asked that is the hope and we are not there yet?

DC Gloria Reynolds stated that we need more money. The initial deployment is 400 MDCs, which will be marked patrol vehicles.

Comm. Norris asked if that covers all of the patrol vehicles?

DC Reynolds stated no, it does not cover Special Crimes Units, which also have MDTs in them. Some Narcotics units have MDTs.

Comm. Norris asked what percentage would be in our scout cars?

DC Reynolds stated that our plan is to do all of them.

Comm. Norris asked of the 400 that we were... ..

DC Reynolds stated about half of them.

Comm. Norris asked that cars that did not have the computer installed right away, what would they use?

DC Reynolds stated that they would continue using the MDTs.

Comm. Norris stated that she went on a ride along. A guy was driving and the officers followed him to his home. He did not have a driver's license. The officer wrote him a ticket. The officers could not run him in the car because the car did not have a set-up to run him. They handcuffed and placed him in the car. They took him back to the precinct so they could do a Lien check to make sure that there were no

outstanding warrants. Ultimately, they determined that he was clean, the guy called someone from his family who comes and gets him. The officers did nothing inappropriately in any way. What we had was a citizen who deserved a ticket, who should have gotten a ticket; who ends up in handcuffs, taken to the police department and family having to come and pick him up. That is a negative experience with the police department.

Comm. Norris stated this is wonderful and her concern is the cars that are not going to have this mobile visual computer, are they at least going to have the minimum so that they can do a Lien check so that we don't have to take NOP's back to the precinct just to find out if they are a bad guy or not?

DC Reynolds stated that the reason the officers did not run one was because was this a marked vehicle?

Comm. Norris stated yes, it was a marked vehicle with no computer in the car.

DC Reynolds asked no MDT?

Comm. Norris answered no, there was nothing but a big empty space.

Comm. Norris stated that she asked the Commanding Officer about that following the arrival because it didn't seem right to me. She was told that is what the officers have to do if they cannot run a Lien check.

DC Reynolds stated that MDTs are quite old. There are problems that need to be repaired. She could not speak for why this particular precinct would allow officers to use a marked vehicle without MDTs. That's one issue.

Comm. Norris stated that now that we have the _____... Is the best stuff that is left over be going to the other cars?

DC Reynolds stated that if we had money to buy MDCs for all of the vehicles, we certainly would have done that; we just do not have the money right now. What goes along with this is the phasing. Because we also have to change our radio system from the analog to the data system which communicates with the MDT or the MDC. Hopefully, we can do this over the next year or eighteen months to put MDCs in every patrol vehicle, every Special Crimes or Narcotic vehicle, that is used routinely for patrolling the streets whether it is marked or unmarked. She stated that she could not say that there would not be instances where the MDC won't work. She did not know if we could prevent that.

Comm. Norris stated but that should be the exception.

DC Reynolds stated that maybe the experience that Comm. Norris had was also the exception.

Comm. Norris stated that maybe department-wide it was. But she was led to believe that it was not the exception to the officers at the precinct. They seemed pretty familiar with that procedure. She didn't feel that the officers misbehaved in any type of way, but she thought the less you have to handcuff people the better.

DC Reynolds stated that she did not understand one of the circumstances exactly the fact that they did not or were not able to do an inquiry or was it a question of identity?

Comm. Norris stated that she was led to believe that..... **(inaudible.... conversing at the same time.** They took me to the precinct.....

DC Reynolds asked was this recently?

Comm. Norris stated it was a 1 year and half ago.

DC Reynolds asked Commander Jackson if she wanted to comment. DC Reynolds stated that was part of our command also preparing maintenance for all of the scout cars with the radios and MDC equipment.

Cmdr. Jackson, Emergency Communications Div, stated that it had been awhile since she worked in a scout car but there are two ways to run a check. One is that you can ask Dispatch to do it; and more frequently what happens is a car will use their own base. People at the precincts will go on Channel 5 at their desk and give the information to them and ask them to run it. What they are really trying to do is to identify that person.

Comm. Norris stated that all of that sounds good to her and she does not doubt that it is the plan. She is betting that if you put in the paper how many people have been handcuffed and taken to the precinct for (NOP) Not Having A Operator's Permit, and then cleared and let go. The number would be a not insignificant number. It was very clear that at the precinct where she was that this is a regular everyday occurrence. That is just one precinct. There may be some communication that needs to get out. This may be a training issue. It needs to be solved if cars had this lovely new stuff. If we are not going to have it in all cars, that is something that we need to make sure that.....

DC Reynolds stated that she was sure that would solve anything. Because that is not the way that it should really be handled. DC Reynolds asked Commander Brackens if he would like to comment on what happens at the Eighth Precinct? Is that normal to bring people in for NOP?

Comm. Norris stated not to put you on the spot Commander.

Unidentified female stated that you could arrest them.

Comm. Norris stated that there is no question that the person who was handcuffed had committed something that we are not supposed to commit. She was not saying that the people did anything improper in anyway but she is saying that she was told if the officers had the right equipment, they would not have had to do that. They could have run into computer and not have to drag someone into the(tape inaudible). She was not accusing anyone of having done anything wrong, but she was saying that it was unfortunate that we had to do that.

Cmdr. Stacey Brackens stated that what probably should have happened unless the entire Lien system was down; the Lien officers should have switched over to Channel 5.....

Comm. Norris asked and then radioed it in?

Cmdr. Stacey Brackens stated yes and radioed it in.

Comm. Norris asked if that is what you are on too?

Cmdr. Stacey Brackens stated that how it is done at the 8th Precinct. Once they get kicked back that he does have a license and the number, the officers may be able to issue a citation for not having a valid operator's license on their possession. If he doesn't have one and it shows up, they would have to bring him in. They could fine him and he or she would be on their way after being cleared. The rules say that officers are supposed to handcuff male prisoners. However, probably because you were in there, they didn't have...Oh that is not the issue?

Comm. Norris stated that she was not objecting. She thinks the officers did exactly what the officers were supposed to do. What she is objecting to is that if we don't have to handcuff someone and take him or her into to the precinct, we would rather not do that. But if we have to do that, we have to do that. If there was something and we could just issue a ticket on the spot that is a better thing. She felt everyone would rather just get a ticket than to be handcuffed. That is a pretty negative part on the department. She was led to believe to believe very conclusively by a

number of people through the ranks, Deputy Chiefs, that when they don't have the right equipment in the cars, this is what they have to do. I asked the Chief at that time, which was Chief Charles Wilson and he confirmed that is what they have to do if they don't have the right equipment in the cars.

Cmdr. Brackens stated that once at the 8th Precinct where our Lein Operator, the Law Enforcement Information Network, where we receive information. They would go on Channel 5 and now most of the officers carry cellular phones. They would call the Lein operator on that number that is indicated for that particular shift; they would give them the information. In fact, I have done that when I recovered cars on the street. I would call the number from my cell phone that is indicated for the Lein operator and they would give me the information back that we have a stolen car and the person does not have a valid driver's license.

Comm. Vann stated that when we went through the things with the video cameras that we advocated for in the cars. He did not know if we received 100 % on that. Now we are saying that these are going to go into 400 cars. We don't have any money to go any further. We may already have a bunch of mismatched vehicles. You know black, white, in between, and the new white. He is wondering in terms of the whole uniformity of how the ability of the officers in the scout cars to actually follow the procedures.

There are going to be policies that follow with this particular piece of equipment that would not be applicable to officers who got into the car who did not have this equipment, etc. Which brings to him a lot of inconsistencies, how do they think we will navigate through this and before we have a lot of problems with officers who inadvertently turned off their video cams, etc. Does this system help to be effective?

DC Reynolds stated that we hope so. Where there is a will, there is a way. We have some officers who are very confused and if they really want to look at ways to defeat the system, they can. What happens with this new system is that we are also deploying a wireless 802011-access plan person. Those patrol vehicles that have the computer; their video camera will download and digitize the video to the computer. When that patrol vehicle comes into the precinct, it will upload without any assistance from a human person. Be maintained in the precinct on the server and then transferred to a central storage downtown.

Comm. Vann asked

DC Reynolds stated that with the consent decree, we go from a 30 day retention to 90 days. To try to do that in a precinct

DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT MIND'N OUR BUSINESS

Board of Police Commissioners

The Detroit Police Department's mission is building a safer Detroit through community partnerships. Therefore, the following enforcement actions were conducted during the week of September 3^{rd-9th}, 2003:

ORGANIZED CRIME AND GANG DIVISION

The Conspiracy Intelligence, South-East, North-West and Vice Sections conducted three enforcement actions that resulted in (3) felony and (67) misdemeanor arrests. These enforcement actions resulted in the confiscation of 30,476.9 grams of marijuana, 6.1 grams of cocaine, and 6.7 grams heroin for a combined street value of \$136,907.00. \$238.00 in U.S. currency, (41) shot bottles of Courvoiser Liquor and (26) cans of Budweiser beer was confiscated from these enforcement actions.

SECOND/EIGHTH PRECINCT

On September 4, 2003, officers of the Eighth Precinct responded a police run to Sinai Grace Hospital on "Two complainants shot." Upon the arrival at the hospital, the officers received information that at the intersection of Mendota and W. Chicago a known male fired shots striking both complainants. The female complainant stated she knew the subject by his street name. Due to a diligent investigation by the Second Precinct Investigation Unit, the officers identified the name of the wanted subject. As a result, a warrant was executed in the 8300 block of Artesian. The subject was arrested without incident and charged with "Assault with Intent to Commit Murder."

COMMERICAL AUTO THEFT UNIT (CATU)

On September 3, 2003, CATU Investigators where following up on information received from the Toledo Police Department regarding several vehicles purchased with counterfeit cashier checks. Upon further investigation, a male subject was arrested for "Obtaining Money Under False Pretenses and Receiving and Concealing Stolen Property." The

subject also identified a second female accomplice as the person responsible for making the counterfeit checks. Recovered as a result of this investigation, were twenty-two (22) vehicles and two (2) stolen motorcycles.

Chief of Police Jerry A. Oliver, Sr.

6. PRESENTATION – EIGHTH PRECINCT

Commander Stacey Brackens introduced his staff.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

8. ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

9. ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING

- 1) Thursday, September 18, 2003, @ 3:00 p.m.
Police Headquarters
1300 Beaubien – Room 328-A
Detroit, MI 48226

Tazer International Presentation sponsored by Chief Oliver on:

- 2) Thursday, September 18, 2003 @ 6:30 p. m.
Greater Grace Temple
23500 W. Seven Mile
Detroit, MI 48219

10. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

DANTE' L. GOSS
Executive Director
Board of Police Commissioners

DLG/fyh